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course without any reference to him. This could not have occurred with a competent conductor.

The choral portion of the Creation exhibited the same excellencies and glaring deficiencies which have been noticeable at all the performances. Notwithstanding the improvement that we have noticed in certain points of Mr. Ritter's conducting, there is such glaring evidence of material wants in his system, that we are compelled to say that he occupies a position which a more competent executive musician should have occupied. His selection as conductor was an error in the beginning. Great Festivals are not gotten up to help novices to gain experience. Only the best men should have been chosen, and only the most perfect performances should have been given, in order that the next year's announcement might at once command the interest and the respect of the public.

We shall review the remaining performances of the Festival in our next issue.

#### OPENING OF THE CONCERT SEASON, AT TERRACE GARDEN.

Thousands will hail with delight the re-opening of this most delightful place of amusement. The undertaking was commenced in doubt last year, for out-of-door music in connection with Gardens, was by no means popular with the better class of our citizens—in point of fact it was not considered respectable—but it resulted in a most triumphant success, artistically, and it would have been very profitable also but for the bad weather which prevailed during the four last weeks.

The names of Mr. Theodore Thomas, Mr. Eben and Mr. Gosche being associated with the enterprise gave immediate assurance of its perfect respectability, and from the first night the audience was composed of the leading families of the city, together with a large proportion of artistic celebrities.

The coming season promises to be extremely brilliant. Mr. Theodore Thomas is now in Europe, and will bring with him on his return, all the striking novelties he can find in the musical cities of the Continent. The orchestra has been re-formed and several new *Virtuosi* are promised to be brought forward during the season.

Mr. Eben will conduct the Concerts until the return of Mr. Thomas, and he is a most able and worthy substitute. He is familiar with the whole repertoire of instrumental music, is an accomplished musician, and is a firm, spirited and effective conductor. The orchestra is safe in his hands.

The season will open on Monday evening next June 10th, when a brilliant programme will be presented. Terrace Garden (Third Avenue between 58th and 59th streets) has been very much beautified in anticipation of

the event, and visitors will find their favorite place of resort fresh and pleasant, with added attractions and conveniences.

#### CONCERT OF MRS. JULIA MORRIS, AT HARLEM.

Mrs. Julia Morris, a lady well known in musical circles, gave her first concert at the National Hall, Harlem, on Tuesday evening last, assisted by Miss Hutchings, Mr. Thatcher, Mr. Wm. K. Bassford and Mr. I. B. Poznanski. Mr. Dible accompanying. There was a very large attendance.

Mrs. Morris, who has a very sweet voice, sang several selections in a charming and expressive manner, and gained the warm sympathy and applause of the audience. Mrs. Morris is very and deservedly popular in this locality, and the announcement of her name is a sure attraction.

Miss Hutchings is an unpretending but very excellent singer; she has a fine contralto voice which she uses with skill and judgment, and as she sings with much taste and expression, she cannot fail to make a success wherever she sings. On this occasion she deserved and received most cordial recognition for her efforts.

Mr. Wm. K. Bassford, whose touch on the piano is delicious, repeated by general request, his exquisite little tone poem called the "Jealous Stream," to the manifest delight of the audience. It is so fanciful and so tender, and he plays it with so refined and delicate an expression, that it must always prove an effective and fascinating salon piece. When published it will certainly command a very large sale. Mr. Thatcher sang very pleasantly, and contributed much to the enjoyment of the evening.

Mr. I. B. Poznanski made a very marked sensation on this occasion, winning all the honors that could be bestowed by an audience. We never heard him play as well as he did on Tuesday evening. The most marked success of his performance was in two new compositions by himself. One an Adagio, and the other a most effective bagatelle, called the "Mocking Bird." The first is a movement of rare beauty; grave, sustained and full of passionate and eloquent tenderness. It is, moreover, a splendid bit of harmony, and shows how thorough a musician and how instinct with art Mr. Poznanski is. He played it superbly, and his broad and deep expression affected the audience visibly. It was a great success, and so was his "Mocking Bird," which is full of life and spirit, sweet in melody, quaint in character, and popular in every way. Mr. Poznanski was encored in all he played, and the people went away evidently wishing to hear him play still more.

It was altogether a very pleasant concert, comprising features of great excellence, and the people of Harlem should be grateful to artists who will travel so far to afford them so much pleasure.

M. Danccke, the composer and critic gathered the elite of the musical and literary world at his rooms in Paris, a few days since. There were present Berlioz, Rezer, Kreutzer, Schuloff, Mathias, Massart and many authors.

#### MATTERS THEATRIC.

O the dull and dreary Theatres;  
O the flat and stupid Theatres;  
Ever "Black Crook," "Black Crook," "Black Crook,"  
Ever "Scud" and "Troven Treasure";  
Ever smaller, smaller, smaller,  
Grows the chance of all things novel;  
Ever greater, greater, greater,  
Grows the love for legs and horses,  
At the Broadway, Lucille Western  
Plays "East Lynne" and *Is-a-belle*;  
Up at Niblo's, centipedal  
"Black Crook" puts its best leg forth;  
Sophie, Irene, rattling Jennie  
Play burlesques, and promise "Faust";  
"Flying Scud," encased in soap suds,  
Holds the stage at Wallack's still;  
While we're threatened, luckless mortals!  
With a dose of Irish Drama,  
In the shape of Daniel Bryant,  
Daniel once a negro minstrel,  
Now an actor and a star!  
Hapless people, hapless critic,  
Hapless drama, hapless art,  
Horses, pigs, and other cattle,  
Stars are now in place of men.  
Angels that are well *colé*!  
Take the place of actors now;  
Newsboys dance the playful clog dance;  
Pigs run races on the stage;  
"Moral dramas," most immoral,  
Draw forth tears to great extent;  
Horses fret and fume their hour;  
Brass bands play their dulcet strains;  
Waterfalls go leaping downward;  
Patrick wields the short shillalah;  
And the drama's come to grief.

SHUGGE.

#### NOTES OF TRAVEL.

V.

PARIS, May 1st.

DEAR MR. WATSON: Yesterday when I returned from my music lesson at Professor Stamaty's, I found a large packet, with the Paris post mark, addressed to me lying upon my table. Upon examination I perceived through its thin envelope, several sheets of printed matter, and I mentally decided that it was the advertisement of some generous wine vendor, or the enticing circular of a fashionable modiste; but upon opening it great was my joy to find several slips cut from the ART JOURNAL, and a most agreeably long letter from my *chère amie*, and your fascinating contributor "Minette." This is the first time since my departure from New York (Feb. 2d), that my eyes have been delectated with even a dismembered portion of the ART JOURNAL, and I leave you to guess which portion of the contents of the packet caused the greatest excitement. I came here with the expectation of doing many things besides studying Music, but so absorbing and exacting have I found this divine Art under Professor Stamaty's excellent instruction, that I find little time for letter writing. Every week I see and enjoy many things that I wish to transmit to your paper, both in private Art circles and in its more proper domain, the opera, concerts, etc.,